

The Conservatives passed legislation which drastically increased the cost of prescription drugs.

Mrs. Sparrow: No. We brought in research and development.

Mr. Parker: Show me the jobs that were created by the program. Show me the jobs in Kootenay East. Jobs have been lost in Kootenay East. Our pensioners are now paying three and four times more for their drugs than they have paid at any other time. This is as a result of the Free Trade Agreement, whether or not Hon. Members opposite agree. It was done as a gesture to the Americans. The Conservatives have given thousands of profitable corporations—

● (1920)

An Hon. Member: You are a total stranger to the truth.

Mr. Parker: He says that I am a stranger to the truth. I can remember when the great debate took place in the 1984 election and the Liberals were criticized for patronage appointments. We saw what happened after the Conservatives were elected.

Mr. McDermid: We took care of your House Leader. His name was Ian Deans. We took care of Stephen Lewis. We took care of all your friends. All your friends got good jobs. You are just sore because you did not get one.

Mr. Parker: Mr. Chairman, they are getting a little rattled.

The Chairman: Order, please. After we have some quiet, the Member may continue.

Mr. Parker: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. McDermid: What has this got to do with the Free Trade Agreement, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Parker: Mr. Chairman, they talk about "honesty" and they talk about "trust us". Let us talk about whether we can trust them. Let us talk about whether we can trust them with the Free Trade Agreement. I can remember the Hon. Member for York—Peel in this House, who was found guilty on 14 different counts of conflict of interest, not one, not two, and \$600,000 of the taxpayers' money was used to try to defend him.

I say to small businessmen out there who are supporting the Conservative Government: "If you got yourself

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into a situation where you would be charged, and you were found guilty on 14 different charges, would the Government come and pay your legal fees?" I do not think so.

Before I close, I want to discuss water. I think water is what this agreement is all about; this is taken from *Wildlife International*. As I said before, with regard to the Columbia River Treaty and how it affected our water, I remember that we as a municipality decided it was too costly for us to run a city water main to irrigate our golf courses. We wanted to pump water out of the Columbia River reservoir to irrigate our golf course. Do you know that we could not do that in Canada? We had to get permission from the International Joint Water Commission and the Americans to take water from our own rivers and our own country to irrigate a golf course within our own country.

Mr. McDermid: Who sat on the joint commission? Why did they set up a joint commission?

Mr. Parker: It does not matter who sat on it. I am saying that we better clarify what we have. I have an article here. There is a loophole in the controversial Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement which could have an unwanted impact on Canada's most essential natural resource, water. It reads:

U.S. politicians have already voiced the possibility of future needs for Canadian water, says Donna Leith, Director of the Education and Information Program at the Rawson Academy of Aquatic Science.

As the agreement stands now, says Leith, our American neighbours, who face worsening H2O shortages, have equal access rights to all precious Canadian waters.

That is what it says. Here is what she says is the solution to it:

The only solution to strengthen Canada's position, she says, is to implement a joint Canada-U.S. Declaration of Meaning which clearly excludes water from the trade agreement.

This was not done.

Mr. McDermid: Who said that?

Mr. Parker: I told you who it was. It comes from *Wildlife International* of November and December, 1988, and her name is Donna Leith, Director of the Education and Information Program at the Rawson Academy of Aquatic Science.

So note that and let us do something.

Mr. McDermid: I have met with them before.

Mr. Parker: You have met with them.